

CAMPING IN CUBA.

The Second Regiment Seems to Enjoy the Life.

News and Gossip.

Headquarters, 24 South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, Camp Columbia, Havana, Cuba, Monday, January 3, 1900.—The 24 South Carolina is now comfortably camped on Cuban soil, and it is the first regiment of South Carolina soldiers to leave the American Continent. It is a notable fact that the sentiment of the men have changed considerably since leaving Savannah. Everyone is pleased here, and even those who wanted to be discharged while in the United States are glad now that they did not have their own way about it. Quite a number of men who were homesick while at Camp O'Neal are buoyant and happy here. There is nothing but good duty to do, so it is only one day in every week that the men have to work.

Our camp site is a beautiful one. It is situated about eight miles from the city of Havana on a chain of hills. In the distance mountains are in plain view, and to the southward the city of Marianao may be seen. Two sides of our camp are bordered by rows of royal palm trees, the trees being about eight or ten feet apart. The railroad running from Havana to Marianao borders the camp on the west and the camp of the 4th Illinois on the east. A large and beautiful banana grove is just across the road to the north, and near the camp line is the home of a wealthy Cuban family. Here is to be seen a most beautiful flower garden. Beautiful palms, flowers and trees go to make up a garden a woman would call "just lovely." The hills around us form a picture-scene. Words fail to express the loveliness of the country—that is, English words do, maybe when I learn to speak Spanish I will be able to give the readers of the News and Courier some adequate idea of what we have seen and what beautiful scenery we behold every day. Everyone here is in ecstasy over the surroundings.

The Cubans seem to be proud to have the American soldiers with them, and everyone nods and gives a fellow in blue a pleasant smile and some intelligible lingo when they meet.

The widowed occupant of the magnificent dwelling referred to above must have given Col. Jones such an irresistible smile that he was forced to speak to her, for he met her and called at the house. Here he was treated so nicely that to day he took the regimental band there to serenade the family. There are six young ladies in the family and some of them speak English quite fluently, and, knowing your correspondent's sentiments, the Colonel invited him, along with Col. Thompson, to go, too. The entire family were strong Cuban sympathizers, and they are always glad to entertain American soldiers. We were given a royal entertainment and they expressed themselves as being highly pleased at the compliment Col. Jones had paid them by bringing the band to serenade them. One of the young ladies asked for the band to play the national hymn, and when it rendered "The Star Spangled Banner" she said that was not the one, "Dixie" and "Yankee Doodle" were tried, but neither was the one she wanted. Finally Prof. Trowbridge struck up "There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," and the senorita clapped her hands and exclaimed: "That's it!" She had evidently heard it often when the regulars were encamped here. If what I experienced this afternoon is a fair specimen of Cuban hospitality, then it is unsurpassed even by our own.

The regiment reached the wharf at Havana Friday morning early. In a short time the men disembarked and started for camp, but two battalions were carried back and remained aboard the boat till Saturday morning. Col. Thompson's battalion came on and pitched tents enough to accommodate the men. The wagons were kept busy hauling the baggage, but when the 24 and 3d battalions reached camp Saturday about 2 o'clock there were no tents here for them, nor did they arrive till Sunday. The men were forced to stay out in the air all Saturday afternoon and Saturday night. A little after dark rain began falling and continued all night. Everyone got thoroughly wet and much baggage was damaged or ruined entirely. The guns suffered terribly from the effects of the weather. Of course, the Government doesn't care how much the men suffer. The soil is red clay and soon became wet and boggy. It sticks to one's shoes like grim death and to five pounds of Cuban soil with us all day yesterday. The sun, however, has dried it all off now and the land is as hard as ordinary South Carolina rock.

This is a beautiful country and as peculiar as it is pretty. The nights are almost unpleasantly cool and in the sun-bine during the day it is almost unbearably hot. In the shade it is pleasant, as there is always a delightful breeze to fan one. Gen. Kiefer told me on Saturday that it did not rain here except in summer, but that we would probably find the dew very heavy. In less than six hours there was falling from the heavens what South Carolinians would call a very heavy rain, and it kept falling all night. Not less than two or three inches of water fell during the night. A very heavy dew, indeed. I am glad that it was not so heavy last night.

Our march from the boat to camp was a long and hot one, but the scenery was so novel and so attractive that the march seemed short to the men. On every hand there was something to attract attention. We passed through four or five miles of streets and everywhere the residents of the city would wave United States flags and sometimes Cuban flags, too, and the men cheered themselves hoarse. As we neared the suburbs and as we passed through the country at every house flags were waved and the soldiers cheered. Wine and fruit were given the men almost all along the way and crowds of Cubans followed us the entire way to camp.

The railroad passes within fifty feet of the tents, and the depot at Buena Vista is not more than three hundred yards off. The train passes about every hour. I use the singular, as there is but one train on the road. It runs from Havana to Marianao, a distance of sixteen or eighteen miles, and returns, making as many trips as possible day and night. The cars are all always pretty well filled, too. There are three classes where we only use two. The fare from any point on the road to any other point is the same; that is, distance makes no difference. The fare from here to Quemados, about three miles, is the same as from here to Marianao, a distance of about eight miles. From Havana to Marianao it is the same, about seven cents. This is the first class; second class is cheaper, and third class cheaper still.

The soldiers go to the neighboring towns in great numbers. Your correspondent went with a party of officers to Marianao, thence back by Santa and Quemados yesterday. The stores and workshops were all open and work going on as on any other day. No notice of Sunday seemed to be taken. The shoe and hat factories were all at work, and the saloons and other stores were doing what looked like a rushing business. I regretted then that we were forced to work on Sunday to get our camp ready for the night, for it did not set such an excellent example to the natives. At Santa we noticed quite a crowd, a noisy, cheering crowd, in a magnificent building on a principal street and upon inquiry (only inquiry across the street,) we found that cock fighting was going on.

At Quemados we noticed some men leading cows and the ropes had been placed through the beasts' noses instead of around their horns, as we put them. I don't know how the thing was done, but the poor animals were bleeding profusely at the nose and the rope was red with blood for at least a foot from each cow's head. There are provost guards at all of these towns, but there does not seem to be any need of them unless it is to prevent American soldiers from raising disturbance, for they seem to be the noisiest crowd.

Last week a soldier in the 2nd Louisiana regiment, in camp right near us, shot and killed a fellow soldier. The murderer was tried by Court martial and sentenced to be shot. There seemed to be no mitigating circumstances at all, and the sentence was approved and read at dress parade yesterday afternoon. Accordingly the unfortunate fellow was shot to death at sunrise this morning on a hill in plain view of all the surrounding regiments.

It is a hard matter to get a pass to go into the city of Havana. An application for such a pass has to go through the entire length of army red tape, from captain to major general, so our men will not visit there so often. I am happy in the idea that an official visit will take me there on Wednesday.

We get a tri-weekly mail, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and our mail leaves three times a week. A letter, in order to go for two cents, must be endorsed by a commissioned officer of the regiment. I heard a lieutenant grumbling this morning because he had to write "Soldier's letter" and his name and rank in the corner of the envelope, carrying a letter to his "girl."

There are many Cuban people here who speak excellent English, but their cognomens are simply unpronounceable, therefore unspellable. The officers are getting up classes for interpreters to teach them the blamed lingo of these dusky wards of Uncle

Sam. The very idea of having to say "bon puen agna" when a fellow wants a drink of water, and calling for "chuevos al plato" when one wants an omelette! It's simply horrible. But we'll get used to it by and by, and then we will go home and brag about what we know of Cuba and its people.

The first day we were here I bought a newspaper from an old fellow, who rattled off a lot of what sounded like cuss words at me, and gave him an American nickel for it. I turned to leave him, when he called to me and gave me for change a silver piece about the size of a dime, two large and one small copper piece. I thought he was cheating himself, but he insisted upon my keeping the change. I was accompanied by Lieut. Hawze, and we soon went into a restaurant for lunch. We got ham, eggs, bread and coffee, and when I held out some money he took the very change the news man had given me and seemed to be satisfied. I was.

The people here are honest—at least some of them. In that same restaurant I forgot and left my kodak. I thought of it in about two hours and went back for it, wondering all the time how I'd make the galoot understand that I was not a fool, but when I got there he recognized me and at once walked to his desk and brought me the little camera.

Those members of the regiment who were left in the United States will stay there if they apply for transportation. Col. Jones received orders to this effect this morning. When a man belonging to one of the regiments now in Cuba applies for transportation he is discharged, paid up and given transportation to his home. If any of those now in the United States want to join the regiment here, the best way to do is to say nothing to the army officers about it and pay their fare down here.

Private Ed Groves, of Company G, met with a very painful, though not necessarily dangerous, accident this morning. While pranking with a large .45 calibre army revolver the weapon was accidentally discharged, the ball tearing off the little finger of the left hand and passing through the left thigh, causing a painful flesh wound. The loss of the finger is complete. Mr. Groves is getting along nicely now.

Major Wagener has been detailed as sanitary officer of the camp.

Lieut. Dargan and the signal corps came over on the Panama. Lieut. Cox is the only officer of the regiment now in the "States."

Three captains of the regiment were "run in" by the provosts for being out without passes while we were on the boat Friday night.

The captains are not much troubled now issuing passes to men who want to go to town at night. The men are not "hankering" to be out at night.

Our camp is near the ocean, and crowds go in surf bathing daily. The companies are remarkably healthy. Fewer men are sick now than ever before in the history of the regiment.

Letters addressed to men in care of their company and regiment, Havana, Cuba will reach them.

LOUIS J. BRISTOW.

Black and the Why of It.

A teacher in one of the Cleveland public schools said one day to her class in English composition:

"Now, I wish every member of the class would write out a conversation between a grocer and one of his customers, introducing some pathetic incident or reference."

Among the compositions handed in was the following by a sweet little girl who may some day grow up to be a second Octave Thanet or a Mary E. Wilkins:

"What do you want?" asked the merchant.

The lady replied, "A pound of tea."

"Green or black?" asked the merchant.

"I think I'll take black," she said. "It's for a funeral."—Cleveland Leader.

Kidney Trouble.

The kidneys cleanse the blood and on their activity depends the health of the body. If the liver becomes so torpid that it interferes with the work of the kidneys the body suffers and dropsy results. The most valuable feature in the curative effect of Prekilly Ash Bitters is its stimulating influence in the kidneys. It cleans and strengthens those organs so that they resume their blood cleansing and urine gathering functions, purifies the stomach and digestion, and by a mild yet thorough cathartic effect, all poisonous and bilious impurities in the bowels are driven out. It quickly restores strength and health. Sold by Evans Pharmacy.

—Small Son—I know what I'll be when I grow. I'm going to be a great inventor. Papa—That's encouraging, certainly, what makes you think you have inventive genius? Small Son—Why, I wanted to take a screw out, and I couldn't find any screwdriver, and so I unscrewed it out with your razor.

—Happy is the man who, when the storm beats upon him, knows how to stick at his task.

Funny Ideas of Beauty.

It is curious to note the old notions of beauty which prevail in different nations.

In Fiji the native women paint their faces with red and white stripes as an ornament. The women of Greenland cover their faces with blue and yellow, while Arabian beauties stain their lips blue and their fingers and toes red.

The pearly teeth of the poet and novelist would not be valued by some of the eastern and Polynesian nations. In Macassar the women paint their teeth red and yellow, in such a way that a red tooth follows a yellow one and alternately. The teeth of the Tonguese are as black as art can make them. The dyeing occupies three or four days and is done to both boys and girls when they are about twelve years of age.

During the whole operation, says Tid Bits, they never take any nourishment for fear of being poisoned by the pigment if they swallowed what required mastication. Every person, high or low, rich and poor, is obliged to undergo this somewhat objectionable operation, as it is alleged that it would be a disgrace to human nature to have teeth white like those of dogs or elephants.

In Japan fashion compels married women to blacken their teeth, not, however, as an ornament, but to make them more ugly and save them from temptation.

The Sunda islanders sometimes blacken all the teeth but two with burned cocconut, covering the two excepted teeth with thin plates of gold or silver. The same tribe is in the habit of employing their old women to dress up the teeth of the youths and maidens at wedding times. The Sunda teeth are filed to a fine, smooth edge, and the body of the tooth made concave, or they will notch the edge of the teeth like a fine saw as an additional means of beautifying.

This mutilation of the teeth is observed by many of the savage or uncivilized races in various parts of the world. In the Malay Archipelago the natives file their teeth into points like those of a saw or pierce them with holes, into which they insert studs. The Macassar people sometimes pull out two front teeth in order to supply their place with teeth of pure gold or silver. Some African tribes knock out their teeth, on the ground that they do not wish to look like beasts. On the Upper Nile four front teeth are always knocked out, but further south only the two upper incisors are dispensed with.

In some parts of the world the shape of the head is of great importance. Many American Indians admire a head so extremely flattened as to appear to us idiotic. The natives of the northwest coast compress the head into a pointed cone, while the inhabitants of Arakhan admire a broad, smooth forehead, and in order to produce it they fasten a plate of lead on the heads of the new born children.

In some countries the feminine headgear is carried to singular extravagance. The Chinese lady carries on her head the figure of a bird, which is composed of copper or gold, according to the quality of the owner. The Myanese women carry on their heads a thin board, about a foot long and six inches broad. With this they cover their hair and seal it with wax.

With the Tahitians to be called "long nose" is considered an insult, and they compress the noses and foreheads of their children for the sake of beauty. The same custom is prevalent among the Malays and the natives of Brazil. In some parts of the world the nose is pierced, rings, sticks, feathers and other ornaments being inserted in the holes.

The ancient Egyptians and Assyrians used paint to make their eyebrows seem wider; the Arabians of the present day go a step further in the use of paint. They endeavor to produce the impression that their eyebrows grow down to the middle of the nose and meet there. Persian women paint a black line around their faces with a variety of figures. The Indians of Paraguay eradicate their eyebrows and eyelashes saying that they do not wish to look like horses.

In China and neighboring countries the finer nails are allowed to grow to a monstrous length as a symbol of nobility, ladies wearing silver cases to protect them. In some parts of Africa yellow or purple nails are considered fashionable, while the Turkish women tinge their nails with blue color.

—The largest bell in France has been hung in the belfry of the Church of the Sacred Heart in Paris. It weighs twenty-five tons, can be heard at a distance of twenty-five miles, and its vibration lasts six minutes.

How to Prevent Pneumonia.

You are perhaps aware that pneumonia always results from a cold or an attack of la grippe. During the epidemic of la grippe a few years ago when so many cases resulted in pneumonia, it was observed that the attack was never followed by that disease when Chamberlain's Cough Remedy was used. It counteracts any tendency of a cold or la grippe to result in that dangerous disease. It is the best remedy in the world for colds and la grippe. Every bottle warrants, For sale by Hull-Or Drug Co.

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

—Sometimes the proof of the pudding is to be found in the doctor's bill.

—The heart regulates the life. Get the heart right and your life is sure to be.

—The man who is master of himself has a servant that he can depend upon.

—The readiest and surest way to get rid of censure is to correct ourselves.

—Never give the tongue its full liberty, but always keep it under control.

—Finding fault with another is only a roundabout way of bragging on yourself.

—A man is dangerously near falling in love with a woman when he likes to hear her laugh.

—To seed raisins pour boiling water over them, and then drain and pinch the seeds out while the raisins are moist.

—"What seems to be the trouble with Wilson, doctor?" "None at all, none at all. I wish every patient I have paid as well as Wilson."

—A millionaire who died in Boston a few days ago directed in his will that no one owing him less than \$3,000 be required to pay.

—Of 750 food and drug samples analyzed by the State authorities in New Jersey 209 were found to be adulterated.

—If the cat had wings, no birds would be left in the air. If everyone had what he is wishing, who would have anything.

—School Teacher—Why were the prisoners who were executed called "poor sinners?" Scholar—Because rich sinners get off.

—An Atchison woman hides her money in the family Bible, and in a married life of 20 years her husband has never found any of it.

—Parisian barbers are legally compelled to wash their hands after attending a customer and before waiting on another. They must use also only nickle plated combs.

—A son was born into a family at Sabattus, Me., recently, being the twelfth child of a mother only 35 or 36 years old, the eldest of the family being but 18 years old.

—"The Chuzzlebops heat the world in economy." "What do they do?" "When Chuzzlebop has a cold he doesn't get his prescription filled until his wife gets a cold, too."

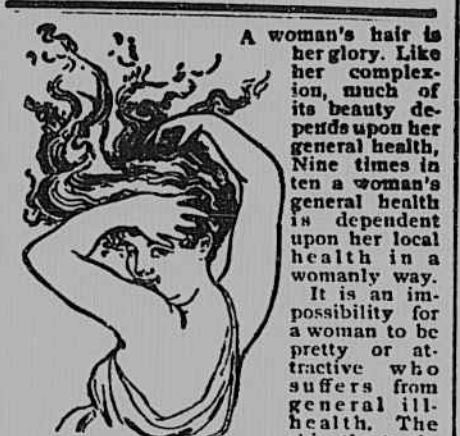
—Before a man falls in love he wonders how a woman would suit him for a wife; after he falls in love he wonders how he would suit a woman for a husband.

—"Doctor, you treated me once for 'lung fever.' Why is your bill for treating me for 'pneumonia' so much larger?" "Pneumonia," sir, is a good deal harder to spell. It ain't every doctor that can do it."

—Indiana possesses half of the window-glass producing facilities of the nation, produces over one-third of the plate-glass and a fourth of the flint and green glass, and stands first among the seventeen glass-producing States of the Union.

—The small town of Verda, in the Kingdom of Dahomey, is celebrated for its temple of serpents, a long building, in which the priests keep upward of one thousand serpents of all sizes, which they feed with birds and frogs brought to them as offerings by the natives.

—Sunday-school Teacher—"Come, now, children, tell me, what house is always open to everybody—to the rich and the poor, the young and the old, the sick and the well? Do you know what house I mean?" Little Willie—"Yeth, ma'am; I know!" Teacher—"Well, Willie, what house is it?" Willie—"The police station."



A woman's hair is her glory. Like her complexion, much of its beauty depends upon her general health. Nine times in ten a woman's general health is dependent upon her local health in a womanly way. It is an impossibility for a woman to be pretty or attractive, who suffers from general ill-health. The skin, the hair, the eyes, the hair and the carriage will tell the story when a woman is ailing. It is impossible for a woman to be in good general health when some local trouble is continually nagging at her nerves and disturbing the natural functions of every organ of the body. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the best of all medicines for women who suffer from local weakness and disease peculiar to their sex. It acts directly on the delicate and important organs concerned. It makes them strong, healthy, vigorous and elastic. It allays inflammation, heals ulceration, soothes pain, tones and builds up the nerves and banishes the usual discomforts of the expectant months. It makes baby's advent easy and almost painless. It enables every organ of the body to perform its natural functions without unnatural interference from a pain-tortured nervous system. It corrects all irregularities. A woman who is made well in this way will recover her natural beauty of form and feature and her natural amiability of character and temper. Thousands of women have testified to its merits. An honest dealer will not urge a substitute for a little extra profit. He is concerned for the health of his customers. Mrs. Rachel Clark, of Houlton, St. Croix Co., Wis., writes: "I am in good health since I have taken Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I gave birth to a 12-pound boy last June. He is six months old now and weighs 30 pounds."

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